

**CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL
RESOLUTION NO. 16-**

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING POLLINATORS AND POLLINATOR HABITAT

WHEREAS, the West St. Paul City Council and the Environmental Committee are dedicated to the protection of pollinators and to promoting a healthy natural environment through the reduction and elimination of harmful pesticides; and

WHEREAS, pollinators including honey bees, native bees, and butterflies are integral to a wide diversity of essential foods including fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, pollinators are facing annual declines in excess of what is considered normal due to habitat loss, pesticide use, pathogens, and parasites; and

WHEREAS, research shows multiple interacting causes are contributors to the severe decline of pollinator populations, including pathogens, habitat loss, exposure to pesticides, and synergistic effects of herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence around neonicotinoid insecticides including clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and imidacloprid is especially compelling and deserves action; and

WHEREAS, neonicotinoid pesticides that are harmful to pollinators and are harmful to other invertebrates, birds, and aquatic animals; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is in the public interest to demonstrate its commitment to a safe and healthy community for people as well as pollinators through the implementation of pest management best practices in maintenance of the city parks, open spaces, and city property; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota:

1. The City shall undertake its best efforts to become a Bee-Safe City by implementing best management practices in the use of plantings and pesticides in all public spaces within the city.
2. The City shall refrain from the use of systemic pesticides known to be harmful to pollinators, specifically but not limited to those that contain neonicotinoid.

3. The City shall undertake its best efforts to plant flowers favorable to bees and other pollinators in the City's public spaces.
4. The City shall designate Bee-Safe areas in which future City plantings are free from systemic pesticides including neonicotinoids.
5. The City shall undertake best efforts to communicate to West St. Paul residents the importance of creating and maintaining a pollinator-friendly habitat.
6. The City shall publish a Bee-Safe City Progress Report on an annual basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of West St. Paul urges all West St. Paul property owners, residents, businesses, institutions, and neighborhoods to become more pollinator-friendly by adopting practices including:

- Committing to not use pesticides, including systemic insecticides, on their property;
- Avoid planting flowering plants that are treated with systemic insecticides;
- Planting more pollinator forage on their property and use organic or chemical-free lawn and landscaping practices.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of West St. Paul this 22th day of February, 2016

Ayes:

Nays:

Attest:

David Meisinger, Mayor

Chantal Doriott, City Clerk